

All the News of West Florida AND SOUTHERN ALABAMA

HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST AS CHRONICLED BY JOURNAL SPECIAL CORRESPONDENTS.

GARNIERS.

Special to The Journal.
Garniers, Dec. 14.—The launch Swan was up in Garniers and Nigger bayous with supplies for the Littlefield and Mooney commissaries. Mr. Littlefield returned on the Swan Saturday.
P. I. and William Hand were home over Sunday, the former one from Pryor's mill and the other from Boggy. John Stanford received quite a severe and painful injury to one of his hands at the Spence mill at Boggy one day last week. He is at his sister's, Mrs. Mooney's.
Mr. and Mrs. Soule and a party of friends were calling on Mr. and Mrs. Hartgrove Saturday.
Mr. and Mrs. Smith and little daughter, of Andalusia, Ala., have been spending a few days with Mrs. Smith's mother, Mrs. Minnie Patterson.

APALACHICOLA.

Special to The Journal.
Apalachicola, Dec. 17.—Apalachicola has an inventive genius in E. W. Bridgeman, a jeweler who, while not vying as an electrician, has planned and made for his own use a demagnetizer for the purpose of relieving a watch of magnetism when it has been exposed to a strong electrical current. This little and important contrivance is encased in a small cigar box, and while crude in appearance is most effective in its work, as well as a mystery to many people. The writer recently had a watch completely knocked out by being exposed to a strong electric current while visiting the light plant. An application of ten seconds to this little machine demagnetized and placed it in correct working condition as a time piece.
Dr. Joseph S. Murrow, one of our prominent physicians, after a residence here of seven years will remove to Atlanta, Ga., about January 7th.
The steamer Crescent City, which has been laid up on account of a broken hub on one of her wheels, will again go on her run to Carrabelle on Friday or Saturday next.

A. B. Marchant, formerly of this city, but now of Columbus, Ga., is visiting here.

FARMDALE.

Special to The Journal.
Farmdale, Dec. 17.—Capt. J. B. Morson and son, Tom, of Birmingham, Ala., with their wives, are stopping at the Farmdale hotel.
W. L. Whitfield, of Early, Fla., was a welcome visitor at our Sunday school Sunday.
The young folks of Farmdale and Allenton chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Oliver, went over on Saturday night and chartered the bridal couple, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Raffield.
Mr. Milton and sister, Mrs. Swartzinger, of Chicago, passed through Farmdale this week en route to their winter home near the light house.
William Strange, our oldest citizen, killed a deer and other game the fore part of this week.
Mrs. Swartzinger and brother, Mr. Milton, came to town yesterday and made arrangements for getting lumber around to Mrs. Swartzinger's home on the gulf.
Capt. Morson and son Tom, since coming here, have purchased some land at Cook and are busily engaged in superintending the erection of their winter home. Mr. and Mrs. Morson accompanied them on their trips to and from Cook and seem delighted with the outing and the bay country.

CANTONMENT.

Special to The Journal.
Cantonment, Fla., Dec. 17.—Mr. Dexter was in town recently.
Miss Mary Wilson has been spending the week in Pensacola.
Billy Butler and Mrs. Meyers, of Cottage Hill, were here shopping Monday evening.
Ollie Jennings, of Gonzalez, is clerking in R. P. Wilder's store.
Misses Susie and Maggie White and James P. of Cottage Hill, were callers here Sunday afternoon.
Miss Bessie Hanna, a popular young lady of Quintette, and Guy W. Reeve, a promising young man of this place, were united in marriage by Rev. Seatteritt at Pensacola Wednesday. The happy young couple have gone to housekeeping in rooms at the St. James.
W. S. Reeve, of Cottage Hill, was in town recently.
Mrs. John McDonald, with Mrs. Dexter and two daughters, were here shopping Wednesday.
Mr. Peters, who was here a few days as substitute for Mr. Reeve, at the telegraph office, has returned home.
Mr. Roberts, the Methodist minister from Roberts, spent Tuesday here.
Mr. Hickson, a traveling man, spent two days here last week.
Fire broke out in McCoy's lumber Thursday and burned one pile of lumber.
Howard Fields and children were here this morning.

BLUFF SPRINGS.

Special to The Journal.
Bluff Springs, Dec. 17.—Rev. W. F. Martin, of Laurel Hill, who has for the last week been conducting a series of meetings here at the Baptist church, did some exceptionally good work in the cause of the Lord.
Mrs. Will Norris went to Laurel, Miss., to join her husband, where he has secured a permanent position. She left here last Saturday.
Mr. Saliman and son, Master Kennedy, went to Pensacola last Sunday on business. They returned home last Thursday.
Lear and Walter Gentry, who for some time have been at work in the carpenter trade in Pensacola, came up on a short visit to their parents, Mr.

and Mrs. G. N. Gentry, Sr., last Sunday morning.
Walter Stanton went to Fannie, Ala., last Saturday to see his family.
Mrs. John Norris went to Laurel, Miss., last Saturday, to join her husband, Mr. John Norris, who went there some time ago.
G. R. Sanders and son, C. R. Sanders, went to Pensacola on business last Tuesday.
G. R. Sanders went to Nora, Cora and Jay on business one day this week.
The Escambia Teachers' Association will hold its regular bi-monthly meeting at Century next Friday and Saturday.
S. Murphy, foreman of a bridge crew, which has for the last seven days been stationed here, left Wednesday for McDavid.

WAUSAU.

Special to The Journal.
Wausau, Dec. 17.—Joel Sapp, of Oakhill, was a business caller Monday.
Robt. Warren, our amiable mail carrier, went on a business trip to Chipley Tuesday.
Justice N. P. Taylor was transacting official business here Monday.
W. O. Suttler, Sr., one of Chipley's lawyers, was a caller Monday.
Dr. W. E. Coleman, one of Vernon's ablest physicians, was in the community Monday.
Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Peel, of Bradford, were shopping here Monday.
W. H. Baxley, of Orange Hill, was shopping and transacting other business here Monday.
W. B. Daniels, of Bradford, was a business caller Friday and informed us that he has several acres of un-gathered corn yet.
Miss Edna McMillan was shopping and visiting here Friday.
John J. Nichols was a business caller Friday.
W. A. Blue, of Holmes Valley, paid our town a pleasant call Saturday.
G. W. Sewell and daughter, Miss Fannie, of White Oak, were shopping here Saturday.
Misses Mittie and Fannie McKeithen, of the valley, were shopping and visiting here Saturday.
S. W. Simmons made a business trip to the county capital Monday.
County Commissioner S. L. Davis was a business caller Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mrs. J. I. McKeithen, of near Vernon, was shopping and visiting in town Wednesday.
B. F. McKeithen was up from the Valley Wednesday visiting his daughter, Mrs. W. L. Tiller.
Editor T. C. Jones and son, Henry, of Pine Log, passed through town Friday en route to Chipley.
T. C. Jones, one of our most progressive farmers, was in the city Friday.
J. S. Wainwright made a business trip to Chipley Friday.
Lyke Barfield, the son of John I. Barfield, aged 18 years, fell from the transfer track at the Morrison mill, south of here, Friday and received injuries from which he died early Monday morning.
Mrs. Eugene Plinder, of Chipley, was in the city Saturday and will remain a few days, the guest of her mother, Mrs. W. D. Owens.
Mr. A. Beck, a prominent naval store man north of here, was in the city Friday.

DESTIN.

Special to The Journal.
Destin, Dec. 19.—William Bedsole came up on the Swan Wednesday to spend Christmas with his parents, at this place.
Chas. Swinney returned home Wednesday. He came on the Ruth.
Boys—To Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Nicholson, Nov. 17th, a son.
Connie Nicholson left Tuesday morning on the Ruth for Harris, where he goes to spend Christmas with relatives.
Mr. and Mrs. George Marler will return home with Mrs. Parry Monday, to spend the holidays.
Mr. Robison was up this way the first part of the week.
Leonard Destin came up from Pensacola Monday on the Ruth.
Mrs. Williams and son, Richard, will leave Saturday morning for Bonifay.
Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Morris left this morning for Freeport.

DeFUNIACK.

Special to The Journal.
DeFuniack Springs, Dec. 17.—Dr. Walden, of Palmer college, has been invited to Atlanta, Ga., to perform the marriage service of Miss Mary Brent Smith, daughter of Hon. Hoke Smith, governor of Georgia, to Mr. Ronald Ransom of Atlanta. Dr. Walden left Thursday evening and will stay over Sunday.
Rev. Mr. Northcutt returned from conference Tuesday and will stay with the M. E. church here for another year, much to the delight of his congregation. Mr. Northcutt is liked by all who know him.
Some of the children of the town will give a Christmas play next Saturday the 19th, under the direction of Mr. May Walden in the chapel of Palmer college.

The pupils of Miss Mary Walden will give a recital next Monday at the college chapel.
The local lodge of Odd Fellows went to the Baptist church in a body last Sunday morning, and heard a splendid sermon from its pastor Mr. Edmonds.
The bazaar held last Friday was a great success, everything being sold. The money raised will go towards home missions.
Larney Sharpe, of Ponce de Leon, was a visitor in town last Saturday.
Mrs. Dr. Stinson has been staying in town some days with her sister, Mrs. Stuart.
It is expected that the water works will soon be in use now, as the mules have been laid, the engine house

built, and the large tank on the tower nearly completed.
Beach Rogers' mill is now fitted up with electric lights, Glen Beach doing the fixing.
Miss Fellows has been quite sick the past week, and unable to attend to her library work.
The fair association has recently bought some land for a permanent location for its annual exhibits.
There will be a play presented in Murray's pavilion Friday night entitled "Brother Josiah."

GARNIERS.

Special to The Journal.
Garniers, Dec. 19.—Mrs. P. L. Hand is quite sick at the present writing, having been taken with cramp colic early Tuesday morning.
There has been a contest to the American people when the change of administration occurs March 4. We have been assured that Mr. Taft is of a calm judicial turn of mind. It will seem like coming into a harbor protected from tempestuous winds, after those winds had all but exhausted all energy to keep afloat.
Certainly it is a good thing for us to be able to change our executives.
Mrs. Origen Weekley, Sr., has been quite ill for a number of days past.
Mrs. R. C. Irwin and Mrs. T. C. Ford were calling on Mrs. Hartgrove at Bradford Thursday.
Mrs. D. S. Mooney was in Pensacola this week on business and Mr. Campbell kept the store and postoffice while he was away.
The Crackneck school closed Friday with appropriate exercises. There has been a marked improvement in all the pupils.
Mrs. Willey, of New Orleans, who has been spending some time with her uncle, Mr. Geo. Soule, returned home Tuesday.
Grandma Soule has gone to Pensacola and reached a few weeks ago.
A daughter of Mr. Kinney, together with her husband and baby, are visiting with Mr. Kinney at Camp Walton.

HARRIS.

Special to The Journal.
Harris, Dec. 19.—Capt. Asa Ward, arrived home Wednesday on the Swan with his little grand-daughter, Virgie, who has been visiting with friends in Pensacola.
Connie Nicholson came down on the mail boat Tuesday and will spend Christmas with his aunt, Mrs. Martha Condon.
Miss Pearl Swinson and Miss Willie Rogers went to Mary Esther on the mail boat Friday to visit friends.
Mrs. Martha Condon and Mrs. Marie Swinson and family were callers at Capt. Asa Ward's home evening.
Mrs. Wm. King of High Tower, fell down stairs, Wednesday, and is not able to get out of her room.
Mrs. Mamie Swinson and daughter Emma, were callers on Mrs. Wm. King at High Tower Friday.

LAUREL HILL.

Special to The Journal.
Laurel Hill, Dec. 18.—George W. Crawford spent yesterday in Florida, returning this morning. He says Florida is a big deal.
Mrs. R. G. French is visiting Florida today, but will return tomorrow.
Miss Cora Barlow is quite sick this week.
Mr. Wheeler has sold his entire interest in the barber shop and the business will be conducted hereafter by Barton and Son.
R. W. Storrs, of DeFuniack, editor of the Breeze, was in town today on business. Mr. Storrs is a butler and you never see him idle.
W. Laban Martin is busy this week preparing his ground for onions. He says that more than 100,000 Florida onions will grow onions as well as any other portion of Florida.
Rev. W. F. Martin wishes to call attention to the fact that planting the velvet beans with corn does not injure the corn in the least. If parties wish to grow velvet beans, they will be able to get all of it. He claims where a planter gathers twenty bushels of corn to the acre, he will gather at least ten bushels of beans from the same land, and there is no better feed for stock. The ten bushels will not three bushels which are worth in the market \$4 to \$5 per bushel. The decaying of the leaves and vines serves as a splendid fertilizer. These beans will grow on any ordinary land. Mr. Martin says he has noticed in all West Florida and South Alabama that the farmers are planting this season as an experiment, and next season the majority of them will plant more extensively. The five acres grown in corn and beans on his place this season will prove to any farmer that to plant and cultivate the velvet bean will pay. The cattle on the farm of his will prove also it pays to fatten cattle with the beans.
Rev. W. F. Martin has just returned from a preaching tour to Bluff Springs. He reports a fine meeting and good people. He leaves Saturday morning for Bonifay, where he will preach Saturday evening and Sunday at 11 o'clock.
Our merchants are trying to excel each other as to the display of Christmas goods.
Judge Daniel Campbell, of DeFuniack, passed through Laurel Hill Tuesday on his way to Florida and Paxton.

McKINNONVILLE.

Special to The Journal.
McKinnonville, Dec. 18.—Our town isn't dead by any means. We are still on the road from good to better. Our school is still improving. The pupils are making some fine averages, and their deportment is splendid.
George Lynch has moved to Ebon since our last writing.
Bill Jackson, of Ebon, was a busi-

ness caller here last Tuesday.
Thos. Taylor, accidentally got his leg broken a few days ago.
Hon. N. B. Cook paid our school a visit last Wednesday.
A. D. McKinnon left last Thursday for an extended trip to Seulah and Pensacola.
Mrs. Jeff Smith, of Molino, was a pleasant visitor here last Tuesday.
Miss Hall of Canoe, Ala., is visiting her sisters, Mrs. W. T. and Mrs. M. Earnest of this place.
W. T. and M. Earnest and E. D. Burrows were out after the feathered tribe last Saturday. The number of scores they made was surprising.
Mrs. D. C. Henderson is visiting her parents at Beatrice, Ala.
Johnnie Bowman of Pleasant Grove, passed through last Monday en route for Freemantle.
J. P. Donaldson was visiting home folks first of the week.
Mrs. P. D. Bowman of Pleasant Grove, was in town last Monday.
Say, brother correspondents, why don't you come in with your news items more often than you do? I feel that the editor appreciates them and assure you that we do. So won't you quit being so negligent and let us have the news?

FLORALA.

Florala, Dec. 19.—Preparations are going forward to present a splendid session of Chautauqua to the people of South Alabama, and in fact the whole state, West Florida included. It is expected that the attendance will be heavy from Pensacola when the season of meriment and learning begins.
Dr. Davidson has announced that he has been fortunate enough to secure the services of the Rogers Goshen Band for the season. This is an orchestra of the highest type and a brass band combined. Some of the members have been south on several occasions, and are known by a few of our citizens. This band furnishes music for the largest chautauquas in the land, and it gives universal satisfaction.
Another attraction that will prove a drawing card for those who like good oratory is Governor Glenn, of North Carolina, who is coming to deliver one or more lectures. He has won quite a reputation as a platform speaker. Other attractions are being booked right along. It is expected that the first session of the Florida Chautauqua will last at least four weeks.

Miss Alma McLeod and Mr. Hal Scott, of Montgomery, were married at the home of the bride's father, D. McLeod. They will make Montgomery their home.
Considerable interest is being taken in the school. An entertainment is to be given at the opera house on the night of Dec. 23.
The big new hotel, work on which has been going on for the past year, is to be opened within the next two weeks. Mr. Carlos Helms, of this place and Mr. Galatus, of Montgomery, have leased the hotel.
The Covington County Medical Society, which enrolls a membership of 32, recently held a convention in the city. It proved a very profitable meeting. Dr. P. B. Spears, of Florida, was elected president, and Dr. F. W. Galloway secretary for the next year.
The waterworks plant and sanitary sewerage systems were turned over to the city on Tuesday last and they were accepted in their entirety, without any changes in any way. Residents have the advantages afforded by the waterworks system for the past two months, but the sewerage part of the contract has just been finished. The contract price was \$35,000.

SOME PERTINENT QUERIES.
Inasmuch as I have twice been hauled up before the recorder's court and fined because I would not remove an electrical sign in front of my place of business I would like to enlighten the public to some extent regarding the inside of this transaction.
In the first place the man erecting this sign obtained a permit, the same as is granted to the Pensacola Electric Co., while the electrical wiring was done under the inspection of the city electrician, who says it conforms to the requirements.
Now then, why should I be compelled to take down a sign from in front of my place of business, while other merchants of the city, who have happened to patronize the Pensacola Electric Co. in buying their signs, are allowed to keep them? If I am hauled up before the courts and fined, why should not other merchants be treated likewise? Why does the Board of Works not order the marshal to arrest these parties? Echo answers "Why?" Is my sign more dangerous to pedestrians than those of other merchants?
As to the danger from these signs, and I believe that this was at the bottom of the ordinance which did away with the old wooden ones, the sign in front of my store would not injure a person should it fall, which it cannot. The sign weighs less than 15 pounds, while there are some on Palafox street today placed there by the Pensacola Electric Co. which weigh 600 and 1,000 pounds. What would happen should one of these immense signs fall upon a person? And then to fine me and allow others to go free, when they have what can really be termed dangerous signs.
I do not suppose the public knows the manufacture of the signs placed by the Pensacola Electric Co. allow companies an extra discount when they sew up a town as Pensacola is today. Such is the case, for it is clearly shown that others cannot swing electric signs. Only the Pensacola Electric Co. has that privilege and unless you patronize that concern you can have no electric sign. That is my experience, but I have the sign yet, and intend seeing if the higher courts will allow such rank injustice to be practiced.

SAM ROSENAU.

A CONTINUOUS PAVING PLAN

By MAYOR C. C. GOODMAN

I believe that good paved streets will add more to the value of property and be of more real benefit to the public in general than any other one thing that a city could do in the way of municipal improvements; therefore I suggest that the city appropriate from \$20,000 up, each year for paving and that the paving be done under the same provisions as the paving that is to be put down now by money derived from the improvement bonds; that is, without getting the consent of the abutting property owners. The purpose of this is to prevent individuals, who own large pieces or parcels of vacant property abutting on thoroughfares which it may be desirable or necessary to pave, stopping the progress of the city in that direction by withholding their consent for the laying of the pavement. In addition upon the petition of the owners of a majority of the foot front of property abutting on any street, asking that the street be paved, that the city comply with the request and order the street paved. The amount above mentioned, which would be what I would suggest to have the city set aside under our present condition for this purpose, would pave about one and one half miles each year, and as the city increased in population and wealth, this amount could be made larger, and if this is done, we would soon have all of our principal streets



MAYOR C. C. GOODMAN.

paved. Our citizens would not have to pay interest on this amount as would be necessary if the city would issue bonds for paving every few years.

Now is the time for us to get busy on this plan. The city, through its board of bond trustees, is going to advertise for about ten miles of paving in a very short time and as we know what street they intend paving under the contract to be let by them, we can select streets that will connect with the paving plan proposed and work the plan out to a good advantage.

With this plan for continuous paving and with the sidewalk plan that is now being advertised for bids, which are to be built by contract, giving the property owner three years to pay for same, I believe that in a few years Pensacola could say without fear of contradiction that we have more miles of permanent sidewalks and paving according to size than any city in the United States.

Pensacola has never failed to carry out any undertaking and as this is one that is of great importance for the future welfare of Pensacola, I hope that this suggestion will become effective the coming year.

It will not do to be of interest to our citizens to know that Pensacola has a lower tax rate than nearly any city in the United States and considerably lower than the other important cities of our own state. Tampa's per capita tax rate is \$10.04, while Jacksonville's is \$8.69 and Pensacola's is only \$6.41.

BABY DIVINE

J. A. Kirpatrick

They tell me that in the long ago
No Christmas song was ever heard,
Of Santa Claus we did not know,
No rustic in chimneys ever stirred.

By and by as Propheas had told,
A babe is born beneath a star,
Baby Divine whose life unfolds
The sweetest story reaching afar.

The shepherds away on Judean hills
Are watching by night their sheep,
Suddenly sweet strains of rapture fill
The air, the mountains and the deep.

Down they float, the angel band,
A new song bringing to men of earth
Good news of a bright and happy land,
We come to celebrate a Savior's birth.

Peace, good will, to men we bring,
We sang it in yonder sky
Of Baby Divine on earth we sing,
And glory to God who rules on high.

Oh, waft this song o'er every ocean,
Proclaim aloud to eastern shores,
And celebrate with high devotion,
The Savior lives in swaddling clothes.

Ye wise men, your treasures bring,
And lay the at his baby feet,
He comes to reign our Heavenly King,
He brings salvation full complete.

The stars from yonder world proclaim,
Old ocean speaks in thunder voice,
The hills adore His holy name,
Let men in every clime rejoice.

He reigns in love from sea to sea,
Speaks peace to troubled souls,
His reign to all eternity,
Majestic power in grace unfolds.

Westville's Hobo Millionaire

Westville Advertiser.

J. B. Barclay, originally from Vermont, but recently from most everywhere, was among visitors in the city Monday.
Jack, as he is familiarly called, blew into this county one cold frosty morning about ten years ago, alighting in Westville from a "flower birth" of an early morning train. Jack was on the "bum," and looked as though he had not had a bath in several months. He really enjoyed the distinction of being the only hobo that had tramped all his life, leaving some at the age of six years. He took a fancy to Westville. The climate just suited him, and hunting and fishing was excellent and the people treated him kindly. He remained there until the Spanish-American war broke out. Like other true patriots, Jack enlisted and "off to the war" he went. While he was never advanced to the front where he could hear the roar of the cannon and the sizzle of the bullets, yet he felt himself a full fledged soldier all right, brave and true. The war over, Jack received the welcome plaudit, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," and at the same time he was tendered his transportation to Vermont. Jack rode in the coach on this trip. Arriving back at the old home he had left twenty years before, he was received with open arms and amid tears of joy. Truly, the prodigal had returned. He found peace and plenty and was given an interest in his father's business. But Jack didn't like the confinement, and he soon "hit the road" again, but he did not leave home "on the hog" this time. He paid his way. After exploring Canada, and all the other countries on this side, he crossed the "big water" and invaded Scotland, paying a visit to his grandmother. This proved to be the "hit" of his life. His grandmother possesses a large fortune and to get Jack started off in life she bequeathed to him the nest sum of \$50,000. Since then Jack has traveled some more. But—
Mr. Barclay is now back in Westville, where he thinks of engaging in business. He declares sunny Florida, especially West Florida, can't be beat for health and climate, and remarked: "B'gosh, I'll remain awhile."
Here's a hearty welcome to our hobo millionaire!

tacles into nearly every home, striking down the youth and strength of the land, enslaving it in its slinky, sinuous length.

The flizzling foamy fluid of translucent amber hue that is reputed to have made Milwaukee famous has made the balance of the country infamous. Men, and you pride yourselves upon being husbands of the cuisine gender, how will you pass Christmas day this year? In a quiet rational manner, in joyful accord with the children's play and wife's glad song, or will you get into that condition that no self-respecting hog would get into—a condition of chaotic brain, heavy viscous miasma, licentious talk, bawling, burching, falling, cursing and blind to all the instincts of manhood and nobility of character that a loving mother sought to and did instill into your being in youth's gay heyday? Will you blacken the sanctuaries of your life's page for sake of a day of questionable pleasure that accompanies (or is said to accompany) a sensation of intoxication?

It seems that if there is one day in the year when a man will get drunk it is Christmas—drunk as a hog, dead to all that day typifies of means. Besides the personal effect upon the one who gives the day over to debauchery is the terrible effect it has upon the innocent wives, children and mothers. If the man is poor and in majority of instances he is, the money he squanders in a spree means just so much less "Santa Claus" for the kids or none at all; it means but another wisp of gray hair over mother's temple; just another weight to agitate father's shoulders. Oh, God, man! there is a spark of goodness left in you, even if it is smothered under a thought of mother and father should stay your hand as it lifts the glass on this holy day. Then there is the sturdy youth in the exhilaration that goes with the knowledge he is 3 times 7, in gross ignorance of devilment, takes the swig of "Old Rye" for—well, just "for Christmas," and with the effrontery that he does not boast of on the other 364 days, he exclaims in blustering tones, "Christmas comes but once a year; if I get drunk, what do I care, but he should care, and does care, in his consciousness he does care, but lacks the stamina or backbone to say I won't, and it may not be out of place here to say no defendant of whiskey has a backbone more stable than that possessed by the jellyfish. Endowed with an intellect withheld from other created things, you debase it by defaming your Maker, dishonoring your parents and denying Christ. Hell—if there is a hell—has no place in its torrid confines of sufficiently high temperature to sear the cuticle of the young bucks and takes a drink "because it is Christmas."

The girls—too often, it is the dainty, be-dimpled hand and sweet, bewitching smile that few can resist that profess the first drink to weak youth and usually through the innocuous (if subtle) egg-nog, girls, dress in a couple of strings of coral beads and a smile and perform a Salome dance on street corners, engage in an old-fashioned Methodist cussing match, or do any other untoward thing, but for stake of righteousness, decency and starvation of youth cut out the punch bowl and wine decenter on Christmas day.

Eleven hundred millions spent in 1907 for crime. If a sum equal to this had been invested in formative and preventive work would the dividends in saved boyhood and manhood have warranted the investment? Promote the playgrounds.

PARDONED FOR CHRISTMAS.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—The first official manifestation of the holiday spirit is credited to Mayor Busse, who has pardoned George Johnson because Christmas and the birth of the prisoner's infant daughter arrive simultaneously.

RESUMING BUSINESS.

Pekin, Dec. 18.—The foreign board is again giving attention to the foreign business of the empire which has been practically at a standstill during the twenty-seven days of mourning following the death of the emperor and the dowager empress.

Prof. James says: "To have an emotion toward some worthy end, and yet not crystallize it into an act, is ethical loss." Insure your ethical condition by promoting the worthy purpose of Tag Day!

Read The Journal's Want Columns this morning.

A Merry Christmas or a Miserable Farce, Which Shall it Be?

S. D. BENNETT, JR.

Easteride has all but lost its true significance and is now the universal opening day for the display of the milliner's art and the haberdasher's artifice while the Fourth of July is by common consent given up to "teaching Young America how to shoot"—to shoot fireworks—and is dedicated to the manufacturers of delectative patriotism of a different sort than that which disturbed certain crowned heads along about 1776. Thanksgiving Day is claimed by market men and caterers to gastronomic demands and by those foes of Audu-

bon who seek to have a bit of quality on-toast through their own prowess with dog and gun. The last holiday of the year, Christmas, the natal anniversary of the world's Redeemer, is monopolized by the commercial world as its own day of days for separating the human animal from his lacerated filth or otherwise.

Every million of King Commerce has his little jab at our purse of meagre wage or amassed wealth at this season, prominent among whom is the dealer in drink. Like a hideous octopus he sends out his insidious ten-